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Williams Powell RECEIVED 20 FEB 2009		
	FILE	A/C's

Patents Directorate

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Your Reference: SP/GM/N16049
Application No: GB0504984.6

19 February 2009 ✓

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Examination Report under Section 18(3)

Latest date for reply:

19 June 2009

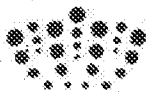
I enclose two copies of my examination report and two copies of the new citation.

By the above date you should either file amendments to meet the objections in the enclosed report or make observations on them. If you do not, the application may be refused.

Yours faithfully

B. Nash

RP Mr Tony Rudge
Examiner



Your ref: SP/GM/N16049
Application No: GB0504984.6
Applicant: Hewlett-Packard Development
Company, L.P.

Examiner: Mr Tony Rudge
Tel: 01633 814680
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Patents Act 1977

Examination Report under Section 18(3)

Novelty

1. The invention as defined in claims 1-4 and 12 at least is not new because it has already been disclosed in the following documents:

D1: WO2004/098189 A1 (LEE), abstract, Figs 3, 5, claims and page 6, III Hf.
D2: WO2004/095345 A1 (IVEY ET AL), abstract and drawings.
D3: US2002/0007488 A1 (KIKINIS ET AL), abstract and drawings, and
D4: EP1988711 A2 (STARSIGHT), see paragraph [0006] at least.

2. Document D4 arises from the top up search. It is regretted that it was not cited previously.

3. The documents cited all appear to disclose systems receiving A/V data from sources including menu data requested by a user.

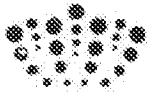
Inventive step/plurality

4. Further consideration under Sections 1(1)(b) and 14(5)(d) is deferred until the question of novelty has been resolved and the critical matter which characterises the basic inventive concept is more clearly understood. This should be taken into account when responding. The fact that claims 2-10 are mutually independently dependent on claim 1 requires that claim 1 is novel and inventive for these claims to survive in this form. At present, assuming claim 1 is anticipated or lacks inventive step there is no common matter linking them for unity and they could potentially form a group of separate inventions.

Clarity

5. The scope of the invention for which you seek protection is made unclear by the content of paragraph [0077], especially in relation to the potential for changing the way the operations are performed, and this should be amended, or preferably deleted.

6. There is apparent conflict between claims 11 and 13 and the claims of your copending applications GB0504986.1 and GB0504981.2. Thus the present description, which is mostly the same as that of the copending applications, obviously includes description of all of the components of the systems of the copending applications, especially with reference to the same drawings. If the applications are to continue the conflict should be removed.



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[Examination Report contd.]

Other matters

7. You should note that the normal unextended period allowed for complying fully with the requirements of the Act will end on 19 February 2010, that is 12 months after the date of this letter.